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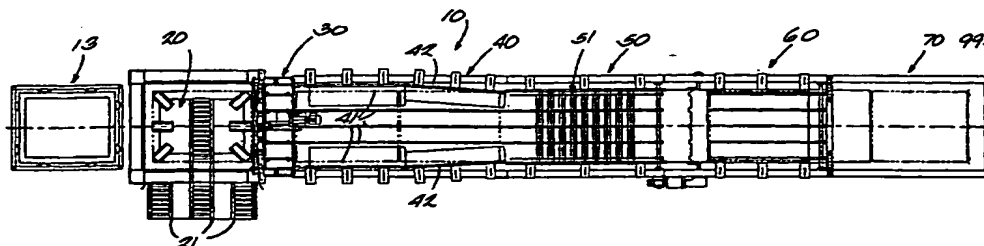
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(54) Title: **SEPARATOR SHEET HANDLING ASSEMBLY**



(57) Abstract: The present invention is embodied in a separator sheet handling assembly (10) that includes a lifting assembly (20) adapted to receive a pallet (12) containing a stack of separator sheets (14). The lifting assembly (20) positions the stack of separator sheets (14) into a predetermined location where a feed assembly (30) engages a separator sheet (16) positioned at the top of the stack of separator sheets (14). The feed assembly (30) removes the separator sheet (16) and transports it to a test assembly (50) where the separator sheet (16) is monitored for a particular characteristic such as cleanliness or structural integrity. The separator sheet (16) is delivered to a first storage assembly (60) if the separator sheet (16) has the particular characteristic, or a second storage assembly (70) if the separator sheet (16) does not include the particular characteristic.

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WO 01/04025 A2